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C O P Y 22 January 1953

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Washington 25, D. C.

10 January 1953

Lt. General L. C. Craigie  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
United States Air Force  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Craigie:

In further response to your letter to me of December 3, a proposal has been developed which will marshal appropriate resources of the national intelligence community to render intelligence support for the various projects referred to in your letter.

In the course of discussion between your Colonel Leghorn and various members of my staff, it has become clear that the scope of those projects and the multiplicity of ways in which their success may contribute to the gathering and production of national intelligence far exceed the limits of responsibility of any single intelligence agency. Clearly the guidance you require must be comprehensive and inclusive of the ~~NEED~~ and views of the entire intelligence community. It seems to me, therefore, that the direct liaison that you propose with this Agency, while desirable for certain aspects of your problem, will not satisfy your over-all needs.

You could, of course, establish similar bilateral arrangements with the other six intelligence organizations, but this would be burdensome, and would not, I believe, produce the same efficient coordination that is available through the existing machinery of the Intelligence Advisory Committee, of which I am Chairman, and its functional subcommittees. I therefore propose, with your concurrence, to raise this problem at an early meeting of the IAC and recommend that it authorize the creation of a special standing group to consider collectively projects which you forward for its consideration and in turn on its own initiative to keep you advised of the continuing and long range needs of intelligence to the extent these are pertinent to your work.

I shall suggest that this standing group be kept small in the interest of efficiency but that it be broadly representative of the full range of our interests. To this end, I would plan to designate the chairmen

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respectively of our principal subcommittees, i.e., Economic, Scientific, Watch, Atomic Energy, and Clandestine Collection. Each of these for his functional field can furnish you with the views of all the IAC Agencies or can as the case may be put you in contact with the particular individual or organization that would be most apt to have the answer to specific requests you might make.

I am informed that Colonel Leghorn and Major General Samford are in accord with the thoughts I have expressed above. Therefore unless I hear from you to the contrary, I shall bring the matter up before the IAC at its meeting, Thursday, 15 January 1953.

Sincerely,

/s/ Walter B. Smith

Walter B. Smith  
Director

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